IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows.

1. (previously presented) A method for reproducing an original image on an image carrier comprising the steps of:

generating a conjoined first and second sub-image, each representative for a portion of said original image;

defining an overlap region as a region where both sub-images give a contribution to the integral optical density of the image carrier;

dividing said overlap region in a partition of microdots;

establishing for each sub-image a peripheral edge in said overlap region;

increasing said contribution by said first sub-image from said peripheral edge of said first sub-image to said peripheral edge of said second sub-image; and

assigning to at least one microdot an intermediate microscopic density substantially different from a minimum microscopic density and a maximum microscopic density of microdots;

wherein said step of increasing said contribution comprises increasing the microscopic density of said microdots by density steps being smaller than half the difference between the minimum and maximum microscopic densities of said microdots.

2. (canceled)

3. (canceled)

4. (canceled)

5. (previously presented) The method according to claim 1, comprising the steps of:

generating for a zone in said overlap region by said first sub-image a first per cent of blank microdots;

generating for said zone by said second sub-image a second per cent of blank microdots, said second per cent being equal to said first per cent.

6. (canceled)

7. (currently amended) A system for reproducing an original image on an image carrier, the system comprising:

means for generating a conjoined first and second sub-image, each representative for a portion of said original image;

means for defining an overlap region as a region where both sub-images give a contribution to the integral optical density of the image carrier;

means for dividing said overlap region in a partition of microdots;

means for establishing for each sub-image a peripheral edge in said overlap region;

~~means for increasing said contribution by said first sub-image from said peripheral edge of said first sub-image to said peripheral edge of said second sub-image; and~~

means for assigning to at least one microdot an intermediate microscopic density substantially different from a minimum and maximum microscopic density of microdots; and

means for increasing said contribution by said first sub-image from said peripheral edge of said first sub-image to said peripheral edge of said second sub-image in a density increment

smaller than half a difference between the minimum and maximum microscopic densities of said microdots

~~wherein said means for increasing increases the microscopic density of said microdots by density steps being smaller than half the difference between a maximum and minimum microscopic density of said microdots.~~